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What's New?

Policies

- [CPP-IV-B-2-500](#) - **Assessing Kin to Provide Care for a Child in Need of Out-Of-Home Placement (Relative/Family Friend Rule Out Criteria)**: this new policy establishes policies and procedures for CP&P staff when making an assessment and determining whether to place a child in need of out-of-home placement with a kinship provider. The policy also requires CP&P staff to consider relatives and family friends as the first resource for a child in out-of-home placement. Additionally, it defines the "Willing and Able" standard, discretionary rule outs, Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) disqualifiers, and administrative appeal rights. Lastly, it defines timeframes for sending out rule-out letters and reconsideration for kin that have changed circumstances.

What's Revised?

Policies

- The following issuances have been updated to include language that defines when a case is considered "open." The issuances also advise that "Intake" cases are to be seen **at least every 30 days** and "Permanency" cases are to be seen **at least monthly**:

- [CP&P III-B-1-100](#), **Case Planning**
- [CP&P III-C-3-100](#), **Minimum Visitation Requirement (MVR)**
- [CP&P III-C-5-400](#), **Intake Supervision**
- [CP&P II-C-5-125](#), **Response Criteria**

Search Update:

The New Jersey Department of Children and Families has temporarily converted our Policy Manual search engine to utilize Google search. Users can search exclusively within the DCF Policy Manual by either typing in a keyword, policy or form title, or policy or form citation by selecting "Search DCF Policies" found throughout the Policy Manual in the Related Links shortcut box. Your search results will appear in a new Google search window. For any questions accessing Department Policies or Forms, please contact policy@dcf.nj.gov for assistance.

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